

DD/ST# 506-65

AGENDA

Breakfast Meeting

Representative Samuel S. Stratton (D., N. Y.)

Friday - 29 January 1965

8:00 A. M.

1. Brief run-down of organization and intelligence community.
2. Congressman Stratton has indicated an interest in a general briefing of the Agency's activities to the extent that security makes this possible. Specifically, he indicated an interest in Viet Nam.
3. After the above warm up, it is expected that the Congressman will follow through with questions. One area of possible interest might be Research and Development.

STRATTON, Representative Samuel S. (D., N. Y.)

DATE OF BIRTH: 27 September 1916

PLACE OF BIRTH: Yonkers, N. Y.

RESIDENCE: Amsterdam, N. Y.

MARITAL STATUS: Married

CHILDREN: Five

EDUCATION:

Public schools of Schenectady and Rochester, N. Y., and at Blair Academy, Blairstown, N. J.; graduated from University of Rochester, A. B. 1937; Haverford College, M. A., 1938; Harvard University, M. A., 1940.

PUBLIC CAREER:

Congresses: 86th to 89th Congresses

Current Congressional Committees: Armed Services

Other: Served as executive secretary to Representative Thomas H. Elliot of Massachusetts, 1940-42; deputy secretary general, Far Eastern Commission, Washington, D. C., 1946-48; elected city councilman, Schenectady, N. Y., 1949; reelected 1953; elected mayor of Schenectady 1955.

MILITARY SERVICE:

World War II Intelligence Officer. Learned Japanese language and served as translator for General MacArthur. Commissioned an ensign in the United States Naval Reserve, June 26, 1942; twice awarded the Bronze Star; recalled to active duty (naval) during the Korean emergency, 1951-53; currently holds the rank of captain in the ready Naval Reserve.

CIVIC ACTIVITIES AND ORGANIZATION AFFILIATIONS:

Trustee, University of Rochester; member of Psi Upsilon fraternity, Phi Beta Kappa, Reserve Officers Association; U. S. Naval Institute, Navy League, Masons, Eagles, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Amvets, and the Presbyterian Church.

PRIVATE CAREER:

Registered representative First Albany Corporation; formerly a college lecturer and radio and television news commentator.

CIA INTERESTS:

Has indicated interest in serving on CIA Subcommittee of House Armed Services.

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CONGRESSIONAL STANDING:

Active member of Research and Development Subcommittee of Armed Services. Sided with Defense Department against building improved manned bomber and has authored minority report on this issue (an almost unheard of event under Vinson's chairmanship, but seemed to be well tolerated by Mr. Vinson). Bright, articulate, hard worker. Held in highest regard by fellow congressmen.

POLITICAL INTERESTS:

Unique as a democrat representing predominantly rural upstate New York. Considered a liberal and strong backer of Administration. Almost copped gubernatorial nomination in 1962 but lost out to Morgenthau. Has strong Senatorial aspirations. Fought Keating hard on Cuba issue, saying he had full faith in intelligence and if Keating really had something important, he should turn it over rather than make political game out of it. Early supporter of Robert Kennedy for Vice President. Just about had democratic nomination to run against Keating in 1964 [redacted] when Robert Kennedy entered race.

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